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BOROUGH OF BANBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year

1959

BOROUGH OF BANBURY

Mayor--

ALDERMAN MISS G.S. BUSTIN, J.P.

Deputy Mayor--

ALDERMAN R.B. MILLER, J.P.

- PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE -

Chairman - COUNCILLOR WALKLETT.

Vice-Chairman - COUNCILLOR AMOS.

ALDERMAN MRS. CHILTON.	COUNCILLOR LOVE.
COUNCILLOR COLLISSON.	COUNCILLOR REES.
COUNCILLOR GILKES.	COUNCILLOR RYAN.
COUNCILLOR HOBAN.	COUNCILLOR MRS. WILSON.
COUNCILLOR LESTER.	COUNCILLOR WORDSWORTH.

Town Clerk and Clerk of the Peace - F.G.E. BOYS, Solicitor.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health

A.J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc., (Oxon), M.D. (St. And)., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law,
Middle Temple, 28 Staverton Road, Oxford. Tel.Oxford 58058.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Certified Meat Inspector.

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond)., F.R.S.H., A.M.I.S.E., M.I.H. (Hons)., M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector and Certified Meat Inspector.

C.R. PALING, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors and Certified Meat Inspectors.

D.C. CAHILL, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned December, 1959).

D.R. JONES, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector.

I.F.J. KING.

Clerk.

MISS. E.M. WATTS.

Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Act and Orders.

G. STEVENS.

Rodent Operative and Disinfection Officer.

G.W. LAMPITT.

Manager of Public Slaughterhouse.

P.J. KEARSE.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Banbury.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I beg to submit the twenty-third Annual Report on the Health Services for which the Borough is responsible during 1959.

BIRTH RATE:

Birth Rate	1959	17.6
Birth Rate	1958	17.2
England and Wales		16.5
Illegitimate Birth rate		4.6

DEATH RATE:

Death Rate	1959	12.5 (corrected Death Rate
Death Rate	1958	13.3 11.8).
England and Wales		11.6

The chief causes of death were;

	<u>1959.</u>	<u>1958.</u>
Heart Disease (including Coronary Thrombosis)	78	113
Cancer	40	47
Vascular Diseases of Nervous System ...	44	39

The Death Rate for 1959 was slightly lower than in 1958, the chief cause of death again being Heart Disease, where the number fell from 113 in 1958 to 78 in 1959. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis, however.

With regard to Cancer also the total number of deaths was less than 1958. 7 deaths occurred from Cancer of the Lung, compared with 12 the previous year. The various sites were as follows -

Stomach 7 Lung 7 Breast 5 Uterus 2 Other Sites 19 Total 40.

Previous reports have emphasised the importance of cigarette smoking in connection with Cancer of the Lung and until there is a drastic reduction in tobacco consumption one cannot expect any considerable reduction in the number of cases.

There was only one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year and 11 new cases were notified. National figures show that the notification rate has fallen by nearly 50 per cent during the past ten years and it would be reasonable to suggest that this may be partly due to the introduction of

chemotherapy, as this means that cases are brought under control more quickly and their infectivity reduced. Other factors are the Mass Radiography campaign in the detection of early cases as well as the gradual improvement in housing conditions and a better standard of living. The Milk Special Designations Order (Specified Areas) 1957 by prohibiting the sale of milk unless it is Tuberculin-tested or pasteurised has been an important factor in reducing the incidence of bovine tuberculosis.

Infant Mortality.

The Infant Mortality was 20.1 per 1,000 births as compared with 22 per 1,000 for England and Wales. This is an increase over the figures for 1957 and 1958 both of which were exceptionally low.

The Neo-natal Death Rate i.e. the number of deaths during the first four weeks of life was 11.5 and for the first week 8.6.

It is felt that whether a death occurs as a stillbirth or as a death during the first week may be a matter of chance and that the Peri-natal Death Rate - the figures for the stillbirths and deaths during the first week gives a better indication. This was 22.6 for the Borough in 1959.

Housing.

This is dealt with fully in Section D of the report and also in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. During the year a further 97 houses were represented as unfit - 3 Clearance Areas (19 houses) 5 Compulsory Purchase Areas (48 houses) and 30 Individual Unfit Houses under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957. The position at the end of 1959 was that 344 houses in the Slum Clearance Programme had been dealt with and that approximately 150 remained to be considered. It is anticipated that practically all of these will be dealt with during 1960.

The position with regard to caravans is now more satisfactory, as there is now a licensed site at Southam Road, containing about 60 caravans; the conditions there are very satisfactory and kept under strict supervision by the owners. Other caravans in the Borough continue to require a good deal of supervision from the Public Health Inspectors; the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Bill at present before Parliament will give some additional powers to Local Authorities.

Food Hygiene.

(a) *Milk* - Since the Milk Special Designations (Specified Areas) Order 1957 it has been obligatory that all milk should be

either Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin-tested. This should help to reduce the incidence of milk-borne diseases such as Bovine Tuberculosis and Undulant Fever. It should be remembered that when milk comes from a Tuberculin-tested herd - without being pasteurised - cases of Bovine Tuberculosis occasionally do occur, as has happened elsewhere in the country recently.

The samples of Pasteurised Milk taken by the Public Health Inspectors during the year have all been satisfactory.

(b) *Food Premises* - The usual inspections under the Food Hygiene Regulations were carried out during the year and as in previous years more attention was placed on informal health education by the Public Health Inspectors during the course of their visits than in formal lectures. No cases of Food Poisoning - either staphylococcal or due to the Salmonellas were notified during the year, but it nevertheless is essential that proper precautions should be taken against these infections as they are increasing considerably throughout the country generally.

Notifiable Diseases.

The number of notifications of infectious disease during the year was relatively small. There were only 11 cases of Scarlet Fever, all of them of a very mild type. 99 cases of Measles occurred. There were no cases of Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis or Food Poisoning during the year.

With regard to prevention, however, the year has been an active one - mainly in connection with Poliomyelitis, up to the 25 age group. 2676 individuals have received 2 injections during the year and 5688 have had a third re-inforcing injection. Early in 1960 the age limit was extended to 40 years of age. Evenings sessions are held at the School Clinic once a month for adults.

As far as Diphtheria is concerned the numbers appear to be diminishing and may well be below the margin of safety. Combined injections for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (Triple Antigen) are now given at the School Clinic and also through the general practitioners, as part of the County Council scheme for immunisation under the National Health Service Act.

Staff.

Unfortunately the two Public Health Inspectors appointed in 1958 left to take up other appointments at the end of the year, Mr. Cahill to Watford and Mr. Jones to Chelmsford, and their posts were not filled until early in 1960.

My thanks are again due to Mr. F. Appleyard, Chief Public Health Inspector for his valuable support and co-operation during

the year, as well as to Mr. Paling, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector who has been responsible for much of the detailed work on Housing.

I should like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, the Town Clerk and his staff, the Borough Surveyor and the Water Engineer for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A.J. CAMPBELL

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1960.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area ...	...	...	...	...	...	5,051 acres.
Population (1951 Census)	...	...	...	...	...	18,917
Population (1959 Estimated Reg. Gen)	...	...	...	...	...	19,730
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£328,253
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,365

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1959.

Live Births.

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	182	150	332
Illegitimate	...	...	...	10	6	16
			Total ...	192	156	348

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated Population ... 17.6
(England and Wales - 16.5).

ILLEGITIMATE Live Births per cent of total live births 4.6%

Stillbirths.

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
			Total ...	4	1	5

RATE per 1,000 (Live and Stillbirths) ... 14.2
(England and Wales - 20.7 - per 1,000).

TOTAL live and stillbirths ... 353

Deaths.

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths	...	...	...	137	110	247
DEATH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated Population	...	...	...	12.5		
(England and Wales - 11.6). (Corrected Death Rate - 11.8).						

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

	Number	Rate
All Infants per 1,000 live births	7	20.1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	7	21.1
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births, Illegitimate	-	-
(England and Wales - 22 - per 1,000).		

Causes of Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

Legitimate - Prematurity	1
Intra-cranial Haemorrhage	1
Hydrocephalus	1
Pneumonia	1
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.5
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	8.6
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) ...	22.6

Causes of Death

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory... ..	1	-
3. Syphilitic disease... ..	1	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... ..	6	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ...	13	6
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	25
18. Coronary disease, angina	28	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
20. Other heart disease	16	18
21. Other circulatory disease... ..	7	7
22. Influenza	2	3
23. Pneumonia	10	6
24. Bronchitis	8	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	4	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	8
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	-
34. All other accidents	-	2
35. Suicide	-	2
	137	110

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	40
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)...	-
" " Measles (all ages)...	-

Classification of Cancer Deaths.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Breast ...	-	5	Stomach	3	4
Uterus ...	-	2	Other Sites	13	6
Lung ...	6	1			

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Staff of the Public Health Department.

A list of the staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of this report.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory work for the Borough is carried out at:-

- (a) The Public Health Laboratories, Walton Street, Oxford.
- (b) The Horton General Hospital, Banbury.
- (c) The Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. (Water Examinations only).

The greater part of the work is now carried out at the Horton General Hospital.

Full details of this are not available.

The following are the details of the work carried out during 1959, as far as Public Health specimens are concerned.

FAECES ...	...	...	...	Number examined ...	33
				Positive for Shigella ...	25
				Positive for Salmonella	1
BLOOD - Vi test	...	...	...	...	49
OTHER EXAMINATIONS	...	...	...	...	6

(b) Nursing in the Home.

Facilities are provided by the County Council under Section 25 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, through the agency of the Oxfordshire Nursing Federation.

(c) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<u>CLINIC.</u>	<u>PLACE.</u>	<u>TIME.</u>
1. Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic.	School Clinic, Warwick Road.	Tuesday and Friday 2.30 p.m.
2. Ante-Natal Clinic.	Neithrop Hospital, Warwick Road.	Wednesday morning by appointment.
3. School Clinic.	School Clinic.	Each weekday 9 a.m. also Tuesday 2 p.m.
4. Child Guidance Clinic.	" "	Thursday 10.30 a.m.
5. Speech Clinic.	" "	Wednesday 10 a.m.
6. Eye Clinic.	Horton Hospital.	Monday 10 a.m.
7. Orthopaedic Clinic.	" "	Thursdays (1st & 3rd) 2.30 p.m.
8. Tuberculosis Clinic.	" "	Thursdays 1 p.m.
9. V.D. Clinic.	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.	Males - Wed. 6 p.m. Sat. 3 p.m. Females - Mon. 6 p.m. Wed. 3 p.m.
10. Diphtheria Immunisation School Clinic.		Every Tuesday 2.30 p.m.
11. Whooping Cough Immunisation.	" "	Every Tuesday 2.30 p.m.
12. Poliomyelitis Immunisation.	" "	Tuesdays 2.15 p.m. Wednesdays 5 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. (Adults).

Puerperal Pyrexia - 1 case occurred during the year.

Maternal Deaths - There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Illegitimate Children.

There were 16 illegitimate children born during the year. Of these none died before reaching the age of one year. This represents an Infant Mortality Rate of 0.0 per 1,000 as against 21.1 for legitimate children.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47.

No action has been necessary in the Borough during the year.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

Water for the Borough was, up to the end of 1946, supplied by the Banbury Water Company but, during that year, a bill was passed by Parliament under which the Town Council acquired the undertaking as from the 1st January, 1947 (Banbury Corporation Act, 1946).

The water supply is from the River Cherwell at Grimsbury and the Sor Brook at Bodicote; it is treated by settlement filtration and chlorination. During 1959 the supply was constant and sufficient.

During the year 87 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. All were reported to be satisfactory and suitable for a public supply.

With the exception of a few houses on the outskirts of the town, all are on the public supply.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

During 1959 the new surface water drainage scheme and the new sewerage and sewage disposal plant for the Borough were in operation and some extensions of the sewers were carried out in consequence of the extensive building programme which is in progress in the area. In addition, preliminary work was put in hand in connection with the provision of sewers for the proposed industrial development area in Southam Road. Plans were also being prepared for the sewerage of the Broughton Road area and it is anticipated that this overdue improvement will be effected during the present year. Drainage work carried out under the supervision of the Department during 1959 included:-

Drains cleared of obstructions ...	75
Drains repaired or relaid ...	14
Soilpipes repaired or renewed ...	4
New inspection chambers provided	5

3. Rivers and Streams.

The Thames Conservancy Board exercises general supervision over the rivers and streams in the Borough. The water-courses conveying storm water received attention from the Public Health Inspectors during the year and some cleansing of water-courses was carried out.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Practically all the dwelling-houses in the Borough are provided with water closets, except a few on the extreme outskirts of the town where the water carriage system is not available. Improvements to closet accommodation carried out as a result of the work of the Public Health Inspectors were:-

W.C. compartments repaired	26
W.C. compartments cleansed	20
W.C. pedestals provided	3
W.C. cisterns provided	12
Elsan closets provided (on building sites)	2
New W.Cs. provided	3

5. Public Cleansing.

This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor and has been well maintained during the year.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Particulars of the work of the Public Health Inspectors are given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector at the end of this report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Further progress was again made during 1959 in connection with the Corporation's Five Year Slum Clearance Programme and a further 97 houses were represented i.e. 3 Clearance Areas (19 houses); 5 Compulsory Purchase Areas (48 houses) and 30 Individual Unfit Houses.

Up to the end of the year, therefore, the Corporation had made:-

13 Clearance Orders	122 houses.
14 Compulsory Purchase Orders ...	98 houses.
50 Individual Unfit Houses	50 houses.
Total	270 houses.

The result of this action is set out below:-

(a) Clearance Orders Confirmed.	- 11 -	112 houses.
(b) Compulsory Purchase Orders Confirmed.	- 6 -	39 houses.
(c) Clearance Orders Cancelled on Owner's Undertaking to Close.	- 2 -	9 houses
(d) Compulsory Purchase Orders Reverted to Clearance Orders.	- 3 -	11 houses.

(e) *Individual Unfit Houses:-*

(1) Undertakings to Close.	-	-	11 houses.
(2) Closing Orders.	-	-	11 houses.
(3) Demolition Orders.	-	-	14 houses.
(4) Reconditioned.	-	-	1 house.
(5) Corporation houses closed.	-	-	10 houses.
(6) Still under consideration.	-	-	8 houses.
(f) House excluded from C.P. Order by Ministry.	-	-	1 house.
(g) Compulsory Purchase Orders awaiting confirmation.	-	5 -	48 houses.

Total

270 houses.

Apart from the areas and houses enumerated above, 3 unfit houses had been demolished or closed prior to action by the Corporation; 49 houses have been excluded from the programme as having been found not unfit on detailed inspection; and an area of 22 houses was ready for representation at the close of the year.

The position then, up to the end of the year, was that 344 houses in the programme had been dealt with and that approximately 150 houses still remained to be considered. The Corporation reviewed this position at the end of January (1960) in the light of Circular 2/60 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and it was tentatively arranged that the remainder of the houses in the programme should be dealt with during 1960.

Once again, attention paid to Slum Clearance work reduced our usual activities in respect of housing repair work but 147 houses were improved during the year following the service of notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Act, 1957.

On the whole, therefore, the year's work showed that substantial progress had been made in this important field of the Department's activities and it is anticipated that the Slum Clearance Programme will have been substantially completed by the end of the present year.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION OF MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

(a) Milk Supply.

As mentioned in previous annual reports, the duties of the local Public Health Department in connection with the supervision of the milk supply is now restricted to the inspection of dairies and the sampling of milk and, during 1959, 26 visits of inspection were recorded and 32 samples of milk were taken.

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949/54 and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949/54, the following licences were granted by the Corporation:-

Dealers' Licences (T.T. Milk)	- 5
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised Milk)	- 8
Dealers' Licences (Sterilised Milk)	- 4

Routine sampling of milk was maintained during the year and the following table shows the number and the results of the samples taken:-

TYPE OF MILK	SAMPLES TAKEN	SAMPLES SATISFACTORY.
<i>Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)</i>	10	10
<i>Pasteurised.</i>	16	16
<i>Channel Islands (Pasteurised)</i>	6	6
	32	32

(b) Meat Inspection.

During 1959, as in the twelve previous years, every animal slaughtered for human consumption in the Borough was inspected prior to sale and, in the period under review, the carcasses, parts of carcasses and offal detailed in the table below were condemned and surrendered:-

	CATTLE.		SHEEP.		PIGS.		CALVES.	
<i>Total number of animals Slaughtered and inspected.</i>	1,121		7,694		7,228		44	
	No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight
<i>Carcasses Condemned</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Other Diseases.</i>	2	350	4	185	6	1,129	1	152
TOTALS (A)	2	350	4	185	6	1,129	1	152
<i>Parts of Carcasses & Organs Condemned:-</i>								
<i>Meat.</i>	-	487	-	342	-	1,307	-	-
<i>Total Offal.</i>	2	90	4	10	6	90	-	-
<i>Livers.</i>	195	2,916	136	265	368	1,384	2	20
<i>Lungs.</i>	30	257	276	493	1,390	2,717	1	3
<i>Heads.</i>	32	773	-	-	215	2,566	-	-
<i>Tongues.</i>	27	189	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Spleens.</i>	6	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Intestines.</i>	4	42	-	-	2	10	-	-
<i>Kidneys.</i>	-	-	-	-	24	18	-	-
<i>Mes. Fat.</i>	3	30	-	-	27	92	-	-
<i>Skirts.</i>	7	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Plucks.</i>	-	-	-	-	95	607	-	-
<i>Hearts.</i>	16	61	3	2	121	120	-	-
TOTALS (B)	322	4,877	419	1,112	2,248	8,911	3	23
Total weight (a) & (b) in lbs.	-	5,230	-	1,297	-	10,040	-	175

The following table in the form required by the Ministry of Health, gives further details of the incidence of tuberculosis, cysticercosis and other diseases occurring in food animals slaughtered and inspected in the Borough during 1959:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part.

	CATTLE EXCLUD- ING COWS.	COWS.	CALVES.	SHEEP AND LAMBS.	PIGS.	HORSES
Number killed (if known) ...	1,097	24	44	7,694	7,228	-
Number inspected	1,097	24	44	7,694	7,228	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerchi.						
Whole carcases condemned ...	2	-	2	4	6	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	411	12	1	467	2,413	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerchi	37.7%	50.0%	6.8%	6.1%	33.4%	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	2	-	-	216	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.9%	8.3%	-	-	2.9%	-
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	21	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	21	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

(c) Other Foods.

The following other articles of food were inspected and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption during the year:-

TINNED FOODS.

Tinned Meat	94	Tins
Tinned Fruit... ..	254	"
Tinned Milk	46	"
Tinned Vegetables	62	"
Tinned Tomatoes	66	"
Tinned Steak... ..	38	"
Tinned Soup	11	"
Tinned Juices	11	"
Tinned Corned Beef	120	"
Tinned Fish	25	"
Tinned Ham	66	"
Tinned Chickens	5	"
Tinned Corn	1	"
Tinned Tongue	1	"
Tinned Rice Pudding... ..	3	"
Tinned Soluble Coffee	6	"
Tinned Ovaltine	2	"

Jars Peanut Butter	...	...	2
Jars Jam & Marmalade	...	...	153
Jars Pickles	...	...	29
Jars Paste	...	...	23 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	19 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	60 lbs.
Meat Pies	...	...	14
Black Puddings	...	...	6 lbs.
Fish	...	...	12½ lbs.
Frozen Kidneys	...	...	45 lbs.
Ham	...	...	29 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	80 lbs.

(d) Food Poisoning.

No cases of Food Poisoning have occurred in the Borough during 1959.

(e) Slaughterhouses.

The Public Slaughterhouse, taken over by the Corporation in July 1954, continued to function most satisfactorily during 1959 and, as will be seen from the statistics given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, the number of animals slaughtered again increased during the year. It would seem that the premises are being increasingly used by the butchers in the Borough and the adjoining areas and that the service provided proved sufficient for the needs of the area as well as ensuring satisfactory and hygienic slaughtering conditions.

For the last twenty years these premises have been the central abattoir for the area and, as recorded in my recent reports, the Corporation decided in September, 1954, not to grant or renew any other slaughterhouse licences in the area and the necessary resolution, under the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954, was passed in that month.

It is with some concern, therefore, that I have to record that, after a local enquiry, the Corporation were directed to issue a licence in connection with a proposed private slaughterhouse - the applicant having appealed to the Minister under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, against the Corporation's refusal to issue such a licence.

At the time of preparing this report no work had been put in hand in connection with the provision of this proposed slaughterhouse but the possibility of the new premises being erected and put into operation fairly soon is one which is viewed with some concern both by the Public Health Committee of the Corporation and by your officers.

As in the previous year, the Department's efforts in this field was mainly restricted to active work in connection with the enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations and the educational work carried out by the Inspectors in the course of their routine inspections of food premises. No organised courses of lectures were given during the year but, in general public health talks, given by the Chief Public Health Inspector, and his deputy to various local organisations, the opportunity was taken of emphasising the importance of food hygiene generally.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

The special attention paid to food premises during the last few years was continued during 1959 and some 1,680 inspections were recorded under this heading. As a result of these inspections, 25 notices were served requiring the execution of work to remedy defects or contraventions and 32 notices were complied with. Thus, a further 32 food premises were improved during the year and 58 defects or contraventions remedied.

Full details of this work are given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector and, as mentioned in that report, it is interesting to note that, since the Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation, 174 food premises in the area have been improved and no less than 469 defects or contraventions remedied.

This has been work of great value and, coupled with the educational work carried out in conjunction with the ordinary routine inspections, has been most useful in bringing home to food traders and their employees the importance of hygienic food handling.

During the period of the Annual Fair in October, 1959, special attention was given to the requirements of the Regulations in respect of food vehicles taking part in the Fair and, on the whole, it was not necessary for your officers to take any action except to maintain close supervision over such stalls whilst they were in the area.

FOOD PREMISES.

The following statistics, required by the Ministry, are given in respect of food premises in the Borough:-

(1) No. of Food Premises on record.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	15
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	21
Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	54
Confectioners and Sweet Shops	...	...	...	...	24
Dairies	...	...	...	...	5

Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	5
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Food Manufacturing Premises	...	...	...	...	11
Greengrocers Shops	...	...	...	...	18
Grocers and General Shops	...	...	...	...	57
Public Houses and Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	59

(2) No. of Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

- (a) For the manufacture or storage of ice-cream ... 107
- (b) For the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food ... 17

(3) No. of Dairies Registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:

(4) No. of Inspections of Registered Food Premises.

(Full details of this work are recorded in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector).

(5) Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

Generally by disposal at the Corporation's refuse tip.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1959.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.	ADMITTED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	TOTAL DEATHS.
Whooping Cough ...	3	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	11	1	-
Pneumonia ...	3	-	-
Measles ...	99	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	-	-
TOTAL	117	1	-

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Age over	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45
and under	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
DISEASE.											
Whooping Cough ...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	-	1	1	7	2	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Measles ...	2	16	9	10	9	50	2	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	2	17	10	12	10	57	5	1	2	-	-

Scarlet Fever.

11 cases occurred during the year of which 10 were treated at home, and one was admitted to the Isolation Hospital. 10 cases occurred in school children, and one child under school age.

Whooping Cough.

Three cases occurred during the year.

No. of children immunised at School Clinic:- 85

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year. There have been no cases in the Borough since 1950.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases occurred during the year.

Salmonella Infection (Food Poisoning).

No cases occurred during the year.

Immunisation.

The following figures show the cases immunised at the School Clinic, Warwick Road:-

1. Diphtheria.

No. immunised				94
Re-inforcement doses				78

2. Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

No. immunised				1
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3. Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

No. 88

4. Poliomyelitis.

No. immunised 2676
3rd. injection 5688

5. Tuberculosis: B.C.G. (13-14 age group).

No. in age group 589
Percentage consenting 477
Positive to initial skin test.... 48
Converted after vaccination 268

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Groups.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 to 5 ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 to 15 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 25 ...	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 35 ...	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 to 55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	8	-	2	1	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE BOROUGH OF BANBURY IN THE COUNTY OF OXFORDSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

NUMBER OF				
<i>Premises.</i>	<i>No. on Register.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	18	11	1	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	138	82	5	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers premises).	8	8	-	-
TOTAL	164	96	6	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

NO. OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.					
<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions</i>
Want of Cleanliness (Sec. 1).	1	1	-	-	-
(a) San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) unsuitable or defective.	9	9	-	2	-
Other offences.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	10	10	-	2	-

3. Outworkers.

No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec.119 (1)(c) -
(All outworkers engaged in making wearing apparel)

No. of cases in default in supplying lists ... - None

No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises ... - None

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

(1) Corporation Swimming Pool.

The Corporation's open-air Swimming Pool comprises a rectangular enclosure, having an area of approximately one and a half acres. There is a spacious car park at the front of the main entrance block, which accommodates the purification plant, spectators' conveniences and stores, Superintendent's office and a central vestibule with registering turnstile and ticket office. A raised circular terrace descends to the Gentlemen's and Ladies' changing rooms together with flower beds and complete with Cafe and paved areas round the pool.

The pool is 165 ft. long x 60 ft. wide with depths of 2'9" to 10'0". The capacity is 356,000 gallons with a surface area of nearly 10,000 square ft.

The water supply to the pool is from the town's mains and the purification plant, housed in the entrance block, is designed to maintain a standard of purity equal to that of drinking water. An electrically operated centrifugal pump withdraws the water from the deep end of the pool at the rate of 59,000 gallons per hour and the water is passed through cylindrical pressure filters. Alumina and Soda are automatically added and the water is sterilised by the Chloramine process before returning to the Pool via the Cascade. The entire contents of the pool are thus circulated once every six hours.

Bacteriological examinations of the water from the pool have been entirely satisfactory during the present and previous years.

(2) The Lido, Grimsbury.

This is a privately-owned swimming pool which is open to the public. It consists of an open-air pool, 75' long 30' wide with depths of 3' to 6' with an 8 ft. diving sump. The capacity of the pool is 81,000 gallons.

There are 6 changing cubicles for males and 6 cubicles for females together with sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

The water supply to the pool is from the town's mains and a Bell filtration plant using chlorine gas in a "break point" chlorination unit is in operation. The water from the mains enters the plant through a small filter and is then pumped through a mechanical rapid sand filter and on to the boiler plant where the water is heated before going through the chlorination plant and into the pool. When the pool is in operation, a valve is closed which prevents water re-entering the Town's mains, and the bath water circulates throughout the system - this occurs three times in every 24 hours.

The most recent samples taken from the pool have shown satisfactory bacteriological results.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR
1959.**

**To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is my privilege to submit to you my fourteenth annual report which contains statistical details of the work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors together with some comments on our various duties.

The year covered by this report was, once more, an exceedingly busy one and it would seem that the work of the Department continues to grow and that, with the prospect of the town increasing in size and importance in the near future, the pressure on your Officers is likely to continue in spite of much progress made during the last few years.

The report attached hereto shows that good progress was made in many of the fields of our activities and I am particularly pleased with the work accomplished in connection with the Corporation's Five Year Slum Clearance Programme. The task of getting rid of the unfit houses in the area has been one of some magnitude but it is pleasing to be able to report that, by the end of 1960 we hope to have completed our side of this work. Similarly, I am able to report further advances in our work under the Food Hygiene Regulations and a little progress in our efforts to keep the caravan problem under control. The latter is one of our most difficult jobs and I feel that, until amended legislation is available to us, we shall not be able to deal, really effectively, with this matter.

Once more I can report a steady increase in the number of animals killed in the public abattoir with a corresponding increase in receipts but it is somewhat disappointing and not a little disquieting to have to forecast the possibility of a private slaughterhouse being established in the area in the not too distant future. This possibility is likely to place a greatly increased burden in connection with meat inspection on your officers and one cannot help expressing disappointment at what appears to be a retrograde step having regard to the fact that all slaughtering in the Borough has, for the last twenty years, been carried out at one central abattoir.

An unusual feature of the year 1959 was the remarkable weather experienced during the summer months but this except-

ionally fine, warm spell caused some repercussions in the Department by way of a greatly increased number of choked drains and sewers, a large increase in complaints of smells and offensive odours and in a much heavier programme of insect control, particularly wasps. We were, however, able to cope with these various troubles to the satisfaction, generally speaking, of the complainants.

Unfortunately I have again to report that the latter part of the year - and the early months of 1960 - brought the usual staffing troubles. In December, Mr. Cahill, one of the Additional Public Health Inspectors, resigned to take up a similar appointment at Watford and, early in January, 1960, Mr. Jones, the other Inspector, was appointed as a District Public Health Inspector at Chelmsford. Their successors were appointed at the end of January but, at the time of preparing this report, had not taken up their duties. These frequent changes are most disturbing to the continuity of the work of the Department and it is to be hoped that we shall be able to retain the new Inspectors for a longer period than we did their two predecessors.

I cannot close this brief introduction without once again recording my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, interest and courtesy during another busy year. Similarly I would express my appreciation of the very happy relationship which has always existed between the Medical Officer of Health and myself and would pay tribute to the Town Clerk and the other Chief Officers of the Council for their ready help at all times.

Finally, I would commend the competent and conscientious work of my Deputy, Mr. Paling, who continues to render most valuable service in a most co-operative manner, and I would thank the remaining members of my staff for their willing and efficient work. This report records their work for the year and I would again stress the team-spirit which prevails in the Department and which makes it possible for me to present another record of progress in the public health field.

I AM, MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant,

F. APPLEYARD.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

March, 1960.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1959.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	324
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Infectious Disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	735
Re-Visits and work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	642
Van Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	1473
Smoke abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Streams and watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Vacant land and refuse dumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Public houses - conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Refuse accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

HOUSING ACT.

Houses inspected and recorded	...	...	...	...	...	312
Re-visits and work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	1229
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	147
Improvement grant applications	...	...	...	...	...	82
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	4

FACTORIES ACT.

Factories Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	82
Workplaces Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	11
Outworkers premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	3

SHOP ACTS.

Shops Inspected (health and comfort provisions)	...	...	...	...	...	123
Shops Inspected (closing hours and records)	...	...	...	...	...	140
Shops re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	12

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	28
General food shops	...	...	...	...	...	161
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	25
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	787
Knackers yard	...	...	...	...	...	6
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	25
Food inspection visits	...	...	...	...	...	172
Restaurants and cafes	...	...	...	...	...	46

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Food vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Milk sampling visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ice-cream sampling visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Public Market stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	290
Annual Fair - Food stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	136

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Swimming pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cinemas and Public halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Diseases of Animals Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Interviews with owners and builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	1027
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1105
Pet Animals Act visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

TOTAL VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE.

9731

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH, 1959

TYPE OF NOTICES.	OUTSTANDING 31.12.58.	SERVED 1959.	COMPLIED WITH 1959.	OUTSTANDING 31.12.59.
<i>Public Health Act - prelim.</i>	59	98	130	27
<i>Public Health Act - statutory.</i>	7	12	12	7
<i>Housing Act-prelim</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>Housing Act-statutory</i>	1	3	4	-
<i>Factories Act-informal</i>	2	6	5	3
<i>Shops Act-informal</i>	6	7	6	7
<i>Food & Drugs Act-informal</i>	13	25	32	6
<i>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act-informal</i>	1	-	1	-
<i>Milk & Dairies Order</i>	-	1	1	-
TOTALS	90	153	192	51

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE, NOTICES SERVED,

NOTICES COMPLIED WITH, DEFECTS REMEDIED AND PREMISES IMPROVED

1959.

	PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS.	FOOD & DRUGS ACTS.	FACTORIES ACTS.	MISC. ACTS AND REGS.	TOTALS.
<i>Inspections made.</i>	3,557	1,680	96	4,398	9,731
<i>Notices served</i>	114	25	6	8	153
<i>Notices complied with</i>	147	32	5	8	192
<i>Defects remedied</i>	279	58	10	14	639
<i>Premises improved</i>	147	32	5	8	192

NOTICES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED 1959.

(a) DWELLING HOUSES.

Roofs repaired or renewed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
External walls re-pointed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Dampness abated generally ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
Wall plaster repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
Ceiling plaster repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Sinks repaired, renewed or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Repairs to water supplies ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
New sashcords to windows provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Doors and woodwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Chimneys and stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Yards and passages paved or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Dangerous walls rebuilt ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Drains cleared of obstructions	...	...	...	...	...	...	733
Drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
Inspector chambers provided to drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Soil pipes, vent. shafts, etc., repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	41

W.C. compartments repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	13
W.C. pedestals provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	4
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verminous rooms disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	6
Urinals provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
New water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	1

(b) SHOPS ACTS.

Water closets cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Notices re Early Closing Day exhibited	...	...	...	...	...	3
Notices re Assistants' Half Holiday exhibited	...	...	...	...	...	3
Abstract of Act provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Young persons records kept	...	...	...	...	...	2
Additional W.C. provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Notices re provision of seats exhibited	...	...	...	...	...	2
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	1

(c) FACTORIES.

Water closets cleansed, repaired, etc	...	...	...	...	...	5
W.Cs. marked for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	2
Urinals cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1

(d) BAKEHOUSES.

Water closets repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	2
Structural repairs completed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flour stores cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	2

(e) DAIRIES.

Dairies cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	1
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(f) FOOD SHOPS AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.

Constant hot water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Food rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	6
Food storage facilities improved	...	...	...	...	...	2
W.Cs. cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Structural repairs completed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dustbins provided or properly sited	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wash basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
"Wash hands" notices provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soap, towels etc., provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Warnings re smoking in food premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	...	8
Meat van repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1

(g) CAFES AND PUBLIC HOUSES.

Rooms and cellars cleansed and re-decorated	3
Water closets cleansed and repaired	4
Urinals repaired and cleansed	2
Structural repairs completed	2
Additional W.Cs. provided	1
Drainage repairs	2
Miscellaneous improvements	4

COMPLAINTS.

During the year, 187 written or verbal complaints were received at the office and these were in respect of the following matters:-

Defective water closets	4
Defective house roofs	6
Choked and defective drains	59
Offensive smells	30
Burst water pipes	1
Defective dustbins	2
Dumping of refuse	4
Flooding of cellars etc.	6
Defective gutters and rainwater pipes	1
Defective ranges and fireplaces	2
Verminous or dirty premises	3
Dampness	6
Smoke dust and chimney nuisance	10
Nuisances from insects	41
Dangerous structures	3
General defects	9
TOTAL	187

DRAINAGE AND WATER CLOSETS.

During the period under review, 75 choked drains were dealt with by the Department and, at a further 14 premises, drains were re-constructed or repaired under our supervision - this work including the provision of five new inspection chambers. In addition, several choked sewers were found and, in each case, these received prompt attention after being referred to the Borough Surveyor.

Improvements to sanitary accommodation effected comprised the provision of 3 additional water closets; the repair of 26 water closet compartments; the provision of 3 new pedestal pans and the repair or renewal of 12 flushing cisterns.

In addition to these improvements, 2 washing basins were provided at food premises in the area following requests by your inspectors.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

The incidence of infectious disease was again low during 1959, and, as a consequence, the Public Health Inspectors made only 46 visits of enquiry in respect of notified cases. A report on each case was made to the Medical Officer of Health. Following the occurrence of infectious disease, 12 rooms were disinfected by the Department.

REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.

As a result of complaints and routine inspections 14 new dustbins were supplied at various premises in the Borough following the service of notices by the Department under the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

INSECT PESTS.

The prolonged hot summer of the year under review resulted in another increase in the number of complaints received concerning insect pests and 41 complaints of this nature were made to the Department. These were in respect of bugs (5), fleas (3), ants (2) and wasps (31) and all these cases were dealt with successfully by your disinfecting officer. In addition, routine inspections revealed a considerable number of wasps' nests and it is estimated that, by the end of the summer, over a hundred cases of this nature had been dealt with.

Once again I must pay tribute to the conscientious work of your disinfecting officer (Mr. Lampitt) in dealing with these cases and would commend the care he has taken and the skill he has shown in dealing with wasps' nests and other infestations during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Duties under the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, were given a fair amount of attention during the year and 88 visits of inspection were recorded in this connection. These visits included the taking of routine observations; warning visits with respect to contraventions and advisory visits in connection with smoke abatement generally.

In reviewing this section of our work, I am pleased to be able to report very few recorded contraventions of the Act and the improvement in this regard, mentioned in my last annual report, continued during 1959.

Three cases of excessive smoke from factory chimneys were noted and three cases of smoke nuisance from the burning of rubbish were dealt with. All these infringements were quickly remedied by informal action by your inspectors and, even during the summer months, routine smoke observations taken did not reveal any cases of undue smoke emission.

Your officers continued their work in making routine advisory visits to the factories in the area and it would appear that the results of this work - which has now continued over many years - are to be seen in the gradual improvement which has taken place in the cleanliness of the atmosphere of the Borough.

Some complaints were again received concerning the emission of dust and fumes from one factory in the town area and a temporary abatement occurred when the factory was closed down for some weeks. A new firm, however, took over the premises in the latter part of the year and a few complaints were again received concerning the emission of sawdust and cellulose fumes when the factory got under way. The matter was discussed by the Public Health Committee and, at the time of preparing this report, a meeting between the Committee and the firm concerned had been arranged with a view to examining the whole problem associated with this particular factory.

HOUSING.

This most important part of our work was again one of the main tasks during 1959 and very substantial progress was made in the carrying out of the Corporation's Five Year Programme of slum clearance.

A further 97 houses were represented by the Medical Officer of Health, comprising 3 Clearance Areas (19 houses) 5 Compulsory Purchase Areas (48 houses) and 30 Individual Unfit Houses. In addition a further Clearance Area of 22 houses was represented early in 1960.

Staff changes rather interrupted our progress during the last few weeks of the year (and early in 1960) but it is anticipated that, by the end of 1960, the Five Year Programme will have been substantially completed from the Public Health Department's point of view.

The position at the end of 1960 is set out in the Medical Officer's Annual Report attached hereto and shows that 270 houses have actually been dealt with and that decisions have been arrived at in respect of 227 houses. In addition, 3 houses had been closed or demolished prior to official action and 49 houses had been excluded from the programme on being found to be fit following detailed inspections. In total, therefore, the position is that, at the time of preparing this report, approximately 344 houses in the five year programme have been dealt with.

It was not possible to carry out much repair work under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1957, during the period covered by this report but ~~the provisions~~ of the Public Health Act, 1936, were used to remedy defects at some 147 houses in the area.

One Application for a Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, was dealt with during the year.

VAN DWELLINGS.

Once again the control of van dwellings was one of the Department's "headaches" and quite a considerable amount of time had to be devoted to the supervision of caravans and caravan sites. The usual attention was also given to the caravans coming into the town for the Annual Michaelmas Fair and I am pleased to report, once again, very little trouble from our annual visitors. Inspections of the showmens' caravans were carried out during their short stay in the Borough and no cause for complaint arose whilst the sites they occupied were found to be left in a reasonable condition on their departure.

With regard to other caravans in the area, we experienced the usual difficulties but, on the credit side, I can record the licensing of the site at Southam Road following the completion of extensive work by the owners. This site, containing some 60 caravans, is now in a very good condition and, being well supervised by the owners, has given little cause for concern during the year. The amenities on the site compare favourably with many similar sites throughout the country and it is pleasing to be able to record the completion of the work on this project.

Individual caravans were licensed temporarily on 16 sites during the year and five of these van dwellings were moved by their owners by the end of the year,

As seems to happen every year now, several caravans - found on unlicensed sites - were moved following pressure by your officers or by the Public Health Committee but, at the close of the year, some trouble was being experienced from an unauthorised site, containing several caravans in the Grimsbury area. The residents of these caravans were granted temporary licences until the 31st March, 1960, and a further comment on this site must be reserved for my next report.

In two cases owners of caravans appealed to the Magistrates against the refusal of the Corporation to grant licences but, in both cases, the appeals were dismissed and the Corporation's action upheld.

As mentioned last year, the use of caravans as permanent dwellings has increased the problem of dealing with van dwellings generally and it is hoped that, following the Arton Wilson Report on this subject, new legislation will be passed which will enable Local Authorities to deal more effectively with what has become a most difficult problem.

In fairness to our local caravan-dwellers I would add that, in general, they do not create nuisances on the sites they occupy and it is only a very small minority of such persons who cause your officers some concern in this regard.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The responsibility of enforcing the whole of the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, rests upon your Public Health Inspectors, consequently, as in previous years, a fair amount of time had to be devoted to this work during 1959. The records show that 123 visits of inspection were made relating to the "health and comfort" provisions of the Act and that 152 shops were visited in connection with closing hours, the employment of young persons and the keeping of records.

As a result of these inspections it was necessary to serve 7 notices in respect of minor contraventions of the Act and, at the close of the year, these notices had, in general, been complied with.

Our duties under the Act are mainly carried out at the same time as shops are visited for other purposes and it is found in practice that this arrangement works well and avoids the annoyance to shop-keepers of different officials visiting shops for different purposes.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The usual routine inspections of factories were carried out and 96 visits of inspection were recorded under this heading. 6 notices were served, following these inspections, and all the notices had been complied with at the end of the year.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

No applications for registration under the provisions of the above-mentioned Act were received during the period covered by this report.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The usual routine duties under this heading were carried out and, as in previous years, the Corporation continued the policy of giving free treatment in respect of infestations occurring in private dwellings and of making a charge for work carried out at business premises.

With regard to surface infestations, 143 complaints were received, 1,778 inspections were made and the number of revisits to various premises totalled 935. As a result of the work carried out 429 premises were cleared of rats or mice, 680 lbs. of bait were laid and 850 rat bodies were found.

In connection with sewer infestations, the usual bi-annual treatment of the sewers was carried out - the Ministry's latest technique, with Warfarin as the poison - being used. The test-baiting of portions of the sewers and the subsequent maintenance treatments again showed that the sewers were comparatively free from rats and no evidence of any build-up of infestations was discovered.

On the whole, therefore, it would appear that the regular attention given to rodent control work in the Borough during the last few years has been effective and that, apart from occasional minor infestations, the area is free from major problems in this connection.

I can, once again, speak very highly of the services rendered by your Rodent Operative (Mr. Lampitt) who gives most conscientious and efficient services and who has coped most successfully with this work for some years now.

MILK CONTROL.

Regular routine inspections of the dairies in the Borough was carried out during the year and samples of milk therefrom were taken at frequent intervals for examination for keeping quality, cleanliness and efficiency of pasteurisation. Thirty-two such samples were taken and, in every case, the samples were reported to be satisfactory.

12 dealers' licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949/54 were issued and 5 dealers' licences were granted under the provision of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949/54.

In general, the dairies were maintained in a satisfactory condition during the period covered by this report and, apart from fairly extensive improvements carried out at one large dairy at our request, there was little cause for complaint by your officers with respect to the milk premises in the area.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

(a) Meat Inspection.

As in previous years, all animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Borough were inspected prior to sale and the following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected together with the carcasses, parts of carcasses and organs which

were rejected as being unfit for human food:-

	CATTLE	SHEEP	PIGS	CALVES	TOTAL
(1) <i>Slaughtered and Inspected</i>	1,121	7,694	7,228	44	16,087
(2) <i>Whole carcasses Condemned:-</i>					
(a) <i>Tuberculosis</i>	-	-	-	-	-
(b) <i>Other Diseases</i>	2	4	6	2	14
(3) <i>Parts of Carcasses and Organs Condemned:-</i>					
(a) <i>Tuberculosis</i>	12	-	216	-	228
(b) <i>Other Diseases</i>	423	467	2,413	1	3,304
(c) <i>Cysticercosis</i>	21	-	-	-	21

The total weight of meat and offal rejected was approximately 7½ tons - as compared with 6½ tons rejected during 1958.

(b) Other Foods.

In addition to the unsound meat detailed above, a considerable amount of tinned foods and other unsound foodstuffs were dealt with 172 visits of inspection being recorded for this purpose. Full details of all unsound meat and other foods are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health attached hereto.

(c) Public Slaughterhouse.

The Public Slaughterhouse, which has now been in operation for five years, continues to function most satisfactorily and the premises are being increasingly used by the butchers in the Borough and the surrounding rural areas. Once again, I cannot speak too highly of the conscientious and efficient work carried out at the abattoir by the manager and the slaughtermen and the very high quality of the dressed carcasses they produce is a matter of favourable comment in the trade.

At all times the staff have been willing to take on that extra work which is necessarily associated with such an undertaking and it is pleasing to record very efficient work willingly performed at all times.

The number of animals slaughtered was 16,087 - comprising 1,121 cattle; 7,694 sheep; 7,228 pigs and 44 calves - and the fees received for slaughtering charges, lairage and refrigeration amounted to £5,365.17s.7d.

These figures show a further increase on those for the previous years as shown below:-

<u>YEAR.</u>	<u>ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.</u>	<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS.</u>
1955	9,100	£3,296. 9. 9.
1956	11,095	£4,083. 12. 4.
1957	12,664	£4,597. 19. 10.
1958	14,160	£5,087. 9. 5.
1959	16,087	£5,365. 17. 7.

There is little doubt that the Public Slaughterhouse is an asset to the area and to the meat traders in Banbury and the adjoining areas. The increasing usefulness of the premises is shown by the figures set out above and the public health advantages occurring from the concentration of slaughtering at one premises, which allow 100% meat inspection and slaughtering to be carried out in properly equipped premises in a hygienic manner, are of the utmost importance.

In this connection it is disquieting to have to record the possibility of a new private slaughterhouse being put into operation in the Borough in the near future. An application to erect and use such a slaughterhouse was refused by the Corporation during the year but, following the submission of the case to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - as is required under certain circumstances by the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 - the Minister decided the grant of licence was necessary to secure adequate slaughtering facilities and issued the necessary Direction to the Corporation to that effect.

(d) Slaughtermen's Licences.

During the year the licences of 11 slaughtermen were renewed and one new licence was granted under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954.

FOOD PREMISES.

Further work was carried out during 1959 in connection with the Corporation's policy to bring the local food premises up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and 32 premises were improved in this respect.

The improvements carried out included the following:-

Food rooms cleansed and redecorated	...	...	3
W.Cs. repaired and redecorated	...	...	5
Additional water closet provided	...	...	1
Urinals repaired and cleansed	...	...	2
Food storage facilities improved	...	...	2

Floors and equipment cleansed	3
Refuse storage improved	2
Refrigerator redecorated	1
Soap, towels and nailbrushes provided	3
Notices re "washing hands" provided ...	2
Structural repairs and improvements ...	5
Sinks and washbasins provided	2
Constant hot water supplies provided ...	2
Smoking in food premises discontinued	3
Food vehicles repaired and cleansed ...	1

It is interesting to note that since the beginning of 1956 - the date the Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation - some 174 food premises in the area have been improved and no less than 469 defects or contraventions remedied. As mentioned previously this work has all been accomplished by informal action and illustrates the co-operation received from the food traders in the Borough.

UNSOUND FOOD.

Apart from the usual amount of unsound food which is detailed in the Medical Officer of Health's report attached hereto some complaints were received from members of the public concerning unsound food and the details of these cases are given below:-

(1) Mouldy Meat Pie

This pie was purchased in a local club and found to be affected with mould. The matter was taken up with the manufacturers of the pie and with the vendors and our enquires indicated that the pie had probably been retained in stock too long. The vendors were warned by the Town Clerk and, as a result the sale of such pies was discontinued.

(2) Unsound Bath Chaps.

The purchaser of a bath chap at a local butcher's shop complained of the unsoundness of the article supplied and, following a detailed inspection of the bath chaps on sale in the shop, other similarly unsound bath chaps were discovered. The Corporation took proceedings in this case and, as a result, the butcher concerned was fined £40 and costs.

(3) Round Worms in Fish.

The purchaser of fish and chips at a local fried fish shop complained of the state of the fish supplied and, on inspection, the fish was found to be infested with round worms. The vendors were cautioned and advised to take precautions against a recurrence of such an incident.

(4) Spent Match in Sausage.

A complaint was received from a neighbouring authority of a spent match being found in a chipolata sausage which had been manufactured in Banbury and sold in the market of the authority concerned. Detailed enquiries were made into this incident but no conclusion arrived at as to how the match gained access to the sausage. A report was made to the Health Department of the authority concerned and as the complainant did not wish to proceed further, the firm were cautioned in respect of this offence.

These cases were all brought to our notice by members of the public and I cannot stress too highly the importance of such occurrences being promptly notified to the Department because it is only through the receipt of such complaints that we can be kept fully aware of the frequency or otherwise of such incidents. In addition, the prompt notification of this type of offence enables the Corporation to make the necessary enquiries at the right time and to take action calculated to prevent unsound food being sold to the public.

PUBLIC HOUSES.

During recent years particular attention has been paid to the work of improving the standard of hygiene in the public houses of the area and further work was carried out in this connection during the year. Since this work was commenced 59 premises have been dealt with and the improvements effected include the provision of sinks in, or in close proximity to the bars at 26 premises; the cleansing and repair of beer cellars at 33 premises and improvements to the sanitary accommodation at 53 premises. The standard of hygiene of the licensed premises has, therefore, been improved generally in recent years and I have to record the co-operation I have received from the various Brewery Companies in this connection.

ICE-CREAM.

Owing to the growing tendency for ice-cream to be supplied by a comparatively few large manufacturers the number of samples taken was kept to a reasonable figure during the year. 16 such samples were obtained and, after examination, all were reported to be satisfactory i.e. coming within grades 1 or 2. It is interesting to note that all samples taken in the Borough during the last three years have been favourably reported upon and that the conditions under which this commodity is sold are, on the whole, very satisfactory.

ANNUAL FAIR - FOOD STALLS.

The food stalls in the Annual Fair were kept under notice during the period they were in the area - each stall being inspected at the time of erection and on several other occasions

during the principal Fair days. The requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were explained to the various stall holders on the first visit and, as indicated above, subsequent revisits were made to ascertain whether the Regulations were being complied with. On the whole the standard of hygiene was satisfactory for stalls of this nature and, apart from one or two minor contraventions, there was little cause for complaint. Some 29 food stalls were included in the fair and they were all equipped with hot water supplies (or had convenient access to such supplies) as well as being provided with soap, towels and nailbrushes. In general, therefore, I can say that our annual visitors gave us no cause for concern in this connection and that, as usual, they were most willing to comply with any requests we made.

**REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND
ORDERS FOR THE YEAR 1959.**

**To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is my privilege to submit herewith my fourteenth annual report on the administration of Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders in the Borough and, in reviewing the year 1959, I am able to report that, with the exception of one outbreak of Swine Fever, the area was free from any of the scheduled diseases.

Although the duties carried out in this field of our activities continues to be somewhat onerous I am able to say that no untoward difficulties arose during the year and I am happy to record the continued co-operation your officers received from the owners of the market. The size of the local market, and the large number of sales held, places much responsibility on the market owners and on your inspectors and it is due, in the main, to this co-operative spirit that so little difficulty is experienced in the performance of our many and varied duties in this connection.

I must also mention the most efficient and conscientious work of my staff in this branch of our work and in particular, would refer, once again, to the most able manner in which Mr. George Stevens - the full time Inspector - carries out his duties. We were indeed fortunate to secure the services of Mr. Stevens for the carrying out of this work and he continues to render excellent service to the Department.

Finally, in concluding this brief introduction, I would again express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement during another busy year and would thank the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr. J.G. Crowhurst) and his staff for their ready help at all times.

I give below various statistics and comments which will, I trust illustrate the duties carried out in this connection and the wide field of such duties.

(1) Anthrax and Sheep Scab.

No outbreak of either of these diseases was reported during 1959.

(2) Swine Fever.

Swine Fever was again prevalent in various parts of the country during the year but, fortunately, only one outbreak occurred in the Borough. This occurred on the 23rd March, 1959, and involved 97 pigs at Golden Villa. The premises remained under restriction until the end of June when they were declared free by the Ministry.

(3) Foot and Mouth Disease.

Although no cases of this disease occurred locally or in the immediate vicinity, there were several outbreaks in the country during the year and it was necessary for your officers to co-operate very closely with the Ministry's Officers throughout the year.

(4) Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1954/55.

The number of licences issued authorising the movement of swine from the cattle market to private premises and the number of animals involved is given in the following table together with comparative figures for the last four years:-

	<u>1959.</u>	<u>1958.</u>	<u>1957.</u>	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
<i>Licences issued</i>	2,986	3,279	3,497	3,519	2,585
<i>No. of animals involved.</i>	52,242	53,719	48,936	49,836	28,573

These figures are illustrative of the growth of this section of the market during recent years.

Two contraventions of the Order were reported to the appropriate Committee of the Corporation and, as both these cases were first offences, the persons responsible were cautioned by the Town Clerk. In addition to these cases two cautions were administered by the Inspector in respect of minor contraventions of the Order.

(5) Importation of Animals.

275 licences were received during the year authorising the movement of 12,336 Irish Cattle from the port of landing to the local market and these cattle were re-licensed to private premises - this involving the issue of 513 licences.

Sales of Irish Cattle were held fortnightly during the year - the market being licensed for the holding of such sales on Fridays - the number of such animals passing through the market decreased very considerably during 1959.

The number of licences issued and the number of animals licensed thereby during 1959 and previous years is given below:-

	<u>1959.</u>	<u>1958.</u>	<u>1957.</u>	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
<i>No. Licences issued.</i>	513	1,940	2,338	1,344	1,655
<i>No. of Animals involved.</i>	12,336	41,202	45,509	28,120	31,914

Two cautions were issued by the Town Clerk in respect of offences in connection with the movement of Irish Cattle.

(6) Sheep Dipping.

The number of sheep dipped in the Borough during 1959 was 1,491 and, in each case, a single type dip was used. New Regulations, made under the Sheep Scab Order of 1938 and the Sheep Scab (Amendment) Order of 1948 are now in operation in the Borough - these Regulations being in accord with similar Regulations operative in the rest of the county

(7) Transit of Animals - Cleansing and Disinfection of Vehicles.

During 1959 a total of 5,212 vehicles used for the conveyance of animals were cleansed and disinfected at the Corporation's cleansing station at the cattle market. This figure gives a weekly average of 102 vehicles, as compared with 122 vehicles per week during the previous year. The income received by the Corporation for this work was £781.16s.0d. as compared with £809.3s.0d. for the previous year.

As in previous years, strict supervision over the cleansing of vehicles was maintained and it was necessary for the Inspectors to issue twelve cautions in respect of contraventions of the Order.

(8) The Live Poultry (Restriction) Order.

As has happened during recent years, the sale of poultry at the market was under restriction throughout the period and the auctioneers were licensed to enable them to hold weekly sales of poultry intended for immediate slaughter within the precincts of the market. In addition they were licensed to hold sales of store poultry on premises adjoining but not within, the market premises. The various sales were kept under observation throughout the year and, in the case of one minor offence detected the offender was cautioned by your Inspector.

(9) The Markets, Sales and Lairs (Amendment) Order, 1926.

Constant attention was given to the market and the Railway Siding Pens during the year in respect of the above-mentioned Order and 244 routine inspections of these premises were carried

out for this purpose. As a result of these inspections it was necessary for your Inspector to issue two cautions in respect of unsatisfactory cleansing of pens in the market and one caution in connection with a similar offence at the Railway Siding Pens.

The new cleansing facilities, provided by the owners of the market and mentioned in my last report, have been of great service in maintaining the market in a satisfactory state of cleanliness and, on the whole, the cleansing and disinfection of the premises between sales has been carried out satisfactorily - particularly having regard to the tremendous amount of stock passing through the premises.

(10) Fowl Pest.

No cases of this disease were reported in the Borough during 1959.

(11) Summary of Action Taken during 1959 in the Administration of the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

(1) Regulation of Movement of Swine Orders - 1954-5.

- (a) Legal proceedings for failure to obtain licences:- Nil.
- (b) Cautions issued by the Town Clerk following reports to the appropriate Committee:- 2
- (c) Cautions issued by the Inspector without reference to the Committee:- 2

(2) Transit of Animals.

Cautions issued by Inspector in respect of failure to cleanse and disinfect Railway Siding Pens:- 1

(3) Transit of Animals (Amendment) Order, 1931.

Cautions issued by Inspector in respect of failure to cleanse and disinfect Transport Vehicles:- 12

(4) Markets, Sales and Lairs (Amendment) Order, 1926.

Cautions issued by Inspector in respect of failure to cleanse and disinfect pens, etc. between Markets:- 2

(5) The Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1957.

Cautions issued by Inspector in respect of failure to clip back tail feathers:- 1

(6) *Diseases of Animals Act, 1950 (Second Schedule).*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Cautions issued by Inspector in respect of moving animals without licences:- | Nil |
| (b) Cautions issued by the Town Clerk following reports to the Committee:- | 2 |

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond)., F.R.S.H.,

Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

MAY, 1960.

